

CHANNEL ISLANDS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY SANCTUARY ADVISORY COUNCIL

FINAL MEETING NOTES

Friday, September 24, 2004

8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Casa Las Palmas

323 E. Cabrillo Blvd. • Santa Barbara, CA

Note: Audio tape recordings of this SAC meeting are available upon request; contact the SAC Coordinator at 805-884-1464.

Attending:

GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES:

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Member Mark Helvey

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Member Russell Galipeau

US COAST GUARD

Alternate John Luzader

MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE

Member Joan Barminski

Alternate Fred Piltz, Ph.D.

US DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Member Alex Stone

Alternate Walter Schobel

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

Member Marija Vojkovich

Alternate John Ugoretz

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

Member Dianne Meester

Alternate Jackie Campbell

COUNTY OF VENTURA

Alternate Jack Peveler

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES:

TOURISM

Member Lauri Baker

Alternate Monica Baker

Non-CONSUMPTIVE RECREATION

Member Jim Brye [SAC Vice-Chair]

Alternate Eric Kett

CONSERVATION

Member Linda Krop [SAC Secretary]

Alternate Greg Helms

COMMERCIAL FISHING

Member Harry Liqournik

RECREATIONAL FISHING

Member Merit McCrea

Alternate Steve Roberson

EDUCATION

Member Craig Taylor

Alternate Barbara LaCorte

RESEARCH

Member Dr. Robert Warner

Alternate Dr. Dan Brumbaugh

PUBLIC AT-LARGE

Member Jim Knowlton

Alternate Avie Guerra

PUBLIC AT-LARGE

Member Dr. Matthew Cahn [SAC Chair]

NON-VOTING MEMBERS:

Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary

Chris Mobley, Manager

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary

Alternate Sean Morton, Management Plan
Coordinator

Absent:

GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES:

NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE

Alternate Tonya Wick

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Alternate Gary Davis

US COAST GUARD

Member J. Wade Russell

CALIFORNIA RESOURCES AGENCY

Member Brian Baird

Alternate Melissa Miller-Henson

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

Member Rebecca Roth

Alternate Gary Timm

COUNTY OF VENTURA

Member Lyn Krieger

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES:

BUSINESS

Member Michael Hanrahan

Alternate Darren Caesar

COMMERCIAL FISHING

Alternate Chris Hoeflinger

PUBLIC AT-LARGE

Alternate Matt Lum

NON-VOTING MEMBERS:

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary

Member Bill Douros, Sanctuary Superintendent

Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary

Maria Brown, Manager

Attendance

SAC attendance was good, with 17 of 20 voting seats represented. Voting seats absent for the day were California Resources Agency, California Coastal Commission, and business. Public attendance peaked at approximately fifteen individuals.

Administrative Business and Announcements

New Council members were announced: Matthew Lum (public at-large alternate), Chris Hoeflinger (commercial fishing alternate), and Lauri Baker (tourism member). Bob Warner was re-selected as the research member, and Jim Knowlton, public at-large alternate, was selected as a public at-large member.

Linda Krop (presiding over the meeting in Chair Matt Cahn's absence) announced that applications for the Chumash community member and alternate seats on the Advisory Council would be accepted through September 30. Jim Brye, Vice Chair, presided over the afternoon session of the meeting as Matt Cahn could not attend the afternoon session.

Chris Mobley announced the Sanctuary's newest staff members: Jonna Engle (Education and Outreach Specialist), Rocio Lozano (Coordinator, Multicultural Education for Resource Issues Threatening Oceans or MERITO Program), Rochelle King (Program Administrative Support), and Jackie Buhl (Research Program Assistant).

Sanctuary Manager's Report

Chris Mobley highlighted several research, education and outreach, and resource protection items from the Manager's Report (which was sent to all SAC members). The historic Chumash Maritime Association tomol crossing from Channel Islands Harbor to Santa Cruz Island was conducted successfully on September 11, 2004. This was the second crossing in 125 years. Chris mentioned that the highlight of this crossing came on the last leg of the trip during which Chumash teenagers paddled to the beach, marking the passing of the tradition to the next generation. Chris noted that Sanctuary representatives met with an administrative law judge to discuss having the Fishing Vessel Reliance removed; the vessel

sank off South Point on Santa Rosa Island. 2005 brings the 25th anniversaries of the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary and National Park. The Park and Sanctuary have formed planning committees that are working to come up with ideas to commemorate the anniversary. We hope to have the high definition film completed in time for the anniversary. Additionally, Chris noted the annual Channel Islands Naturalist Corps recognition dinner at which Sanctuary Advisory Council education alternate and Channel Islands Naturalist Corps volunteer Barbara LaCorte was honored as volunteer of the year. Chris also pointed to the Olympic Coast NMS 10th anniversary celebration report from Channel Islands Naturalist Corps volunteers Warren and Lani Glaser.

Draft Management Plan Update

Mike Murray provided an update on the management plan review explaining that along with a series of programmatic actions contained in the draft management plan, a series of modifications of and clarifications to existing Sanctuary regulations along with a few proposed new regulations are analyzed in a draft environmental impact statement. Mike announced that these documents are now in the internal clearance process to be followed by the public review period for which there will be at least two SAC meetings, and at least two other public meetings.

Council Member Announcements

Bob Warner - the Governor signed two bills that affect the Channel: one on cruise ships and an oceans bill.

Sean Morton - the Federal Bureau of Land Management released their California Coastal National Monument draft management plan and draft environmental impact statement. The deadline for public comment is DEC. 16th. For more information visit: www.ca.blm.gov.

John Ugoretz - the CA Dept. of Fish and Game is going to notice with proposed regulations to update naming and classification of all marine managed areas in CA to be consistent with the classification used at the Channel Islands. In addition, the Department is putting all existing marine protected areas (MPAs) into the same section of Title 14 (sec. 632). Also, the Department has reinvigorated efforts to implement the MLPA in a more timely manner than originally thought possible, and Resources Secretary Mike Chrisman will appoint a task force to look at issues regarding MPAs in CA. John also announced that the CA Resources Secretary has announced an MLPA Task Force composed of high level thinkers chosen for their ability to make decisions: Phillip Eisenberg, Dr. Fernando J. Guerra, William W. Anderson, Meg Cauldwell, Ann de Motto, Susan Golding, Dr. Jane Cassano, Catherine Reis Boyd, Douglas Wheeler.

Jim Knowlton (formerly a public at-large alternate) - announced that he is pleased to have been accepted as a new public at-large member.

Harry Liquornik - requested a future action item to raise the issue of the Sanctuary soliciting SAC comments before commenting on fishery management actions such as closures and management plans.

Linda Krop announced that the Environmental Defense Center is holding its final 2004 TGIF next Friday, and encouraged all to attend this fun event.

Federal CINMS Marine Protected Area Environmental Review Process: Comments from Sanctuary Advisory Council on Preliminary Documentation

Matt Cahn reminded SAC members that they would not be making a decision today on whether reserves should be extended, but rather talking about how to facilitate the federal process and develop the draft environmental impact statement (DEIS).

Overview of SAC Comment Exercise

Sean Hastings explained that Sanctuary staff are looking for information from the SAC to help move forward with development of a DEIS which will be released in 2005. Sean acknowledged the working group meetings held by the SAC for purposes of developing comments and he noted that Sanctuary staff are looking forward to the SAC submitting comments from working groups as well. Sean clarified that staff anticipate the SAC forwarding working group statements in their entirety; not with the intent to agree on all of those statements but just to demonstrate the importance of including working group statements. Next, Sean explained the staff-envisioned process of receiving SAC comments, noting that Sanctuary staff welcome any adjustments or alternatives to that process from SAC members. Sean explained that four students from the UCSB Bren School would record SAC comments. Then, once all thoughts are down on paper the SAC Chair will help the SAC discuss ideas, followed by a group exercise to determine which ideas have full support. Next, ideas with full support, along with attachments of other ideas and working group statements can be forwarded to staff. Sean noted that the Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC) has been going through a similar exercise and will provide input between October and November.

Several SAC members discussed the comment procedure and wanted to be sure that working group comments were highlighted for all SAC members. Fred Piltz commented that when the DEIS is released there will be a much more limited time to comment on it. Sean responded that following release of the DEIS the Sanctuary will follow a comment plan similar to that which Mike laid out for the Draft Management Plan: the Sanctuary will have a series of public comment sessions for the SAC, other public comment sessions, along with PFMC comment sessions. Harry Liquornik raised a concern about analyses needed for several alternatives developed by the fishing community. Chris Mobley explained that the Sanctuary could likely offer preliminary analysis but that following the PFMC meeting in November this preliminary phase of public comment will come to a close as Sanctuary staff work to develop the DEIS. Sean offered that Sanctuary staff are looking for happy medium of keeping constituents engaged, while moving the process forward. Sean also reiterated that upon release of the DEIS there will be another opportunity for public comments.

Before moving on to receiving SAC comments Sean provided a number of caveats about the *Staff Preliminary Working Draft Document to Consider Establishing Marine Reserves and Marine Conservation Areas Within the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary*. Sean explained that this draft is not complete. He acknowledged that while the draft includes a range of alternatives, other alternatives may be provided today or soon after today. Additionally, Sean indicated that the Sanctuary will update the economic and environmental information using data compiled since 2002.

Public Comments on Preliminary Document

No public comments were offered.

SAC and Working Group Comments on Preliminary Document Sections

Members of the Commercial and Recreational Fishing working groups, the Research Activities Panel, Conservation Working Group, and Sanctuary Education Team each highlighted a few major points from the written comments they submitted to the SAC [SET comments were handed out at the meeting and all other working group comments were provided to SAC members in advance of the meeting]. SAC members provided individual comments on the staff preliminary working draft document.

SAC representatives present agreed to the following list of consensus comments (organized by section of the draft document):

Purpose and Need:

- Use ecosystem based management approach language.

Alternatives:

- Characterize alternatives and where they came from;
- The “No Project” alternative should be analyzed with current regulatory framework;
- List Alternative 2 first (as the one that represents the “preferred alternative” selected by the CA Fish and Game Commission);
- Need more complete comparisons between alternatives (e.g., connectivity, habitats, range, etc.);
- Recognize that both Alternatives 2 and 3 provide significant rocky reef habitat;
- Consider an alternative that includes an extension of the Gull Island reserve beyond the Sanctuary boundary;
- Work with fishing working groups to consolidate their mapped alternatives.

Data and Analysis:

- Include a cumulative impacts analysis;
- Recognize growth in global ocean recreation tourism;
- Clarify availability of data outside existing CINMS boundary;
- Analyze impacts to endangered and threatened species;
- Analyze displaced effort from proposed action and existing regulations;
- Address ecotourism effects;
- Incorporate and update data;
- Include fisheries data comparisons on p.46 for 5 – 10 years.

General:

- Strengthen language to improve the rationale for establishing reserves;
- Include Sanctuary Education Team matrix adopted previously for the state reserves;
- Include all citations;
- Include appendix referencing and analyzing effects of other marine reserves.

Affected Environment:

- Add research in human use;
- Discuss state/federal jurisdictions (add to “regulatory setting”).

Individual SAC representatives also provided the following comments that did not receive full consensus support from the SAC members present (organized by section of the draft document):

Purpose and Need:

- Overlay jurisdiction over state regulations;

- Add to purpose #3 local and transient populations;
- Urchin barren language should be removed.

Alternatives:

- Extend reserves as current reserves do not adequately protect marine species;
- Consider contiguous reserve areas;
- Include discussion of the ability of the Sanctuary to manage areas outside boundaries;
- Do more maps;
- Existing state reserves should be built upon as “anchors”;
- Recommend including CEQA phasing plan in the NEPA document;
- SC/Gull Island should be extended to deeper waters (supports fishing group), encompasses unique habitat;
- NOAA’s National Marine Fisheries Service is going to explore fishing regulations/management tools alternatives.

Data and Analysis:

- Fishing stocks unlikely affected by proposed action;
- Section 10.2-11. Establishing thresholds of impacts is biased;
- Tri-county income average is biased, should do threshold based on state-wide fisheries;
- Establish impact thresholds (recognize difference between NEPA impact and local social impacts) – conduct cost/benefit analysis by fishery;
- Clarify sources (level of peer-review) for data cited;
- Analyze socioeconomic benefits to tourists, non-consumptive users, and ocean recreation;
- Note: urchin fishery is now predominantly domestic (pg. 63).

General:

- Protecting the whole ecosystem requires protecting deepwater portions as well;
- Include financial impacts on fishermen due to other management problems;
- Acknowledge and monitor acoustic noise on mammals and fish i.e. – research boats, side-scan sonar.

Process:

- Pacific Fishery Management Council should expand authority to create no-take areas;
- Add sustainability aspect to ensure healthy environment for fishing and promote healthy fisheries;
- Encourage coordination with NOAA fisheries labs;
- Reserves should not replace existing fishery management.

Finalizing Comments (SAC Letter)

The SAC voted unanimously (13-0-0) to forward these consensus and non-consensus comments to the Sanctuary Manager, and also to include comment statements from five working groups: the Conservation Working Group, the Recreational and Commercial Fishing Working Groups (joint statement), the Research Activities Panel, and the Sanctuary Education Team. SAC Secretary Linda Krop agreed to compile the comment lists (based on meeting notes), and produce a draft cover letter for the recommendations. Because the discussion of comments took more time than that allotted on the agenda, additional discussion and the vote on the letter occurred in the afternoon session. Some SAC members who were present during the morning discussion were not present during the afternoon discussion and subsequent vote. Consequently, those SAC members present at the time of the vote agreed to include with the letter an attachment indicating the voting record for this action. SAC members will be able to review the draft letter via email before it is finalized. The letter and supporting materials will be sent to SAC members shortly.

Public Comment

Chris Miller indicated that to conduct cooperative research the infrastructure and logistics of fisheries observers and researchers must be understood, including insurance requirements. He noted that the literature, including the Pew and Oceans Commission reports, suggests community involvement is important. Chris indicated that there is a very small amount of money left in the cooperative research budget and suggested that it be spent to develop a Sanctuary Foundation position to coordinate developing a strategy to overcome insurance and other logistical problems.

Ricardo Melendez of the Wishtoyo Foundation and Ventura Coast Keepers mentioned recent Chumash community discussions that took place when 200 people gathered to welcome the Chumash tomol across the channel. He indicated the importance of keeping the Chumash homeland safe and the importance of the Chumash people being part of the stewardship and circle of people concerned with the Sanctuary. Ricardo acknowledged recent discussions about establishing a Chumash Working Group. He noted that although it is sometimes difficult for the Chumash people to get together they want to be part a of the Sanctuary Advisory Council

Jewels of the Pacific: Informational Overview of the Channel Islands Docufeature Film Project

Susan Sember provided background information on the Essential Image Source Foundation and the Jewels of the Pacific Film Project, followed by a high definition screening of select footage gathered for the primary visitor center film product, as well as footage that will be used for other products. She explained that the visitor center product will be timeless with no interviews, no coverage of contemporary issues or debates. The film will look at the islands in their natural state, what they were, are, and what we hope them to be. This film is intended to provide an inspirational overview that will create a sense or feeling about what we wish to protect.

Susan then offered responses to several questions from the audience. She explained that the Chumash culture, and history and heritage in general, is very important to the film project. She added that her crew was given permission to film the recent tomol crossing. She also indicated that they want members of the community to participate in the story development process, that she wants this to be a community project and is looking to form an advisory committee.

Update on Channel Islands Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)

John Ugoretz provided an overview of research and monitoring projects including: the Cooperative Resource Assessment of the Nearshore Environment (CRANE), sidescan sonar surveys (including in and out of reserves), the California Recreational Fisheries Survey, and Sanctuary-conducted overflights. John announced an upcoming research priorities discussion meeting aimed at bringing local people together to discuss monitoring priorities. John also indicated that catch levels are well within the multi-year average, though he stated it is difficult to determine change unless it is very dramatic and the reserves don't seem to have resulted in dramatic effects. John also announced that changes to the California Department of Fish and Game enforcement structure have removed the distinction between that Department's marine region enforcement and other enforcement staff. According to John the level of enforcement has not changed and now the marine region can draw upon enforcement staff from other regions in the State.

Public Comment

No public comments were offered.

Marine Acoustics: Recommendations from the SAC's Conservation Working Group

Linda Krop provided background on why the Conservation Working Group decided to work on the topic of marine acoustics in the Sanctuary, the development of their draft report on this topic, and the marine acoustics panel convened as part of the July 2004 SAC meeting. Linda indicated that when members of the Conservation Working Group met with Sanctuary staff in January 2003 to discuss issue areas that they could work on three topics came up: monitoring large vessel traffic, marine acoustics, and water quality. She explained that the Environmental Defense Center (EDC) then hired a research fellow (Shiva Polefka) to work full time on literature research on acoustic sources, species impacted, types of impacts that can occur, consult with experts in the field, and talk to experts from other institutions. Based on this research Shiva developed a draft report for EDC and the Conservation Working Group that was then distributed to the SAC in advance of the July meeting. At the July meeting the SAC was provided with presentations and information from Shiva, Peter Howorth, and a representative of NOAA Fisheries. EDC and the Conservation Working Group solicited comments from the public and the SAC on the draft report, received three sets of comments by the deadline, incorporated these comments and other revisions to develop a final document, and distributed this final report to the SAC a few weeks ago. Linda explained that the report is organized in terms of threats and recommendations: large vessels, sonar, explosives, seismic surveys, oil/gas production, and small vessels. The group received extensive comments from Peter Howorth, the National Resources Defense Council, Rebecca Roth, and Fred Piltz. Linda also overviewed the recommendations contained within the report.

Several SAC members commented on the report and recommendations. Bob Warner suggested that the Sanctuary ascertain what opportunities there would be to enlist the Research Activities Panel (RAP) when permit applications are submitted that deal with acoustics. Sean Morton noted that since ocean observing systems are being put in the water the Sanctuary could recommend putting a noise array on every buoy that goes in the water. Craig Taylor stated that this report is very valuable but noted that it would be helpful to go back over the broad ranging recommendations to identify practical steps the Sanctuary could take to begin to implement those recommendations. Similarly, Bob Warner suggested that the report is a great piece of work but since the Sanctuary doesn't have the resources to implement all of the recommendations it could be useful to have a report back from staff about what could be done with existing resources. Alex Stone also endorsed this idea.

In response to Linda Krop's question about what would happen if the report was forwarded to the Sanctuary Chris Mobley explained that it would be shared with other west coast sanctuaries, the National Marine Sanctuary Program, and other parts of NOAA. He also acknowledged that Angela Haren, a Sanctuary intern and graduate student at UCLA, has expressed interest in conducting further research on policy issues raised in the Conservation Working Group report. Chris noted that it would take some time for staff to be able to report back to the SAC with short-term and long-term initiatives regarding the Conservation Working Group's recommendations.

The SAC voted unanimously (13-0-0) to forward to the Sanctuary Manager the Conservation Working Group's report, *Anthropogenic Noise and the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary*, including a suite of research-based recommendations. The SAC's approved motion also included a request that Sanctuary staff reply to the Council with a report on steps that can be taken to implement the

recommendations. The final version of the acoustics report was included in the September 24 meeting packet and is on the Sanctuary web site (<http://channelislands.nos.noaa.gov/sac/news.html>).

Working Group Reports

Conservation Working Group – Linda Krop announced that the group has been focused on the preliminary staff marine reserves document, acoustic report, and water quality needs assessment. They are soliciting comments from some other conservation working groups on the water quality needs assessment and will produce a more complete draft within the next few months.

Recreational Fishing Working Group – Merit McCrea announced that they had held no meeting since last SAC meeting, and that most of their effort has been directed towards looking at the new marine reserves document.

Commercial Fishing Working Group – no representative was present.

Sanctuary Education Team (SET) – Barbara LaCorte announced that this group has been quiet over the summer and they are looking forward to working with Jonna to prioritize some new action items. They are developing overview power point presentations on the Sanctuary and on marine reserves that their members will be able to present to organizations and groups interested in SET and Channel Islands Naturalist Corps presentations. This work will provide them with an archive of different available presentations. Their goal is to have two presentations ready within the next few months, then they will assess other existing needs.

Research Activities Panel (RAP) – Bob Warner acknowledged that the RAP didn't exist as of the last SAC meeting. He stated that over the summer there were discussions about timing, membership, and topics the group would address. Invitations were sent to various institutions and 18 members are currently involved, including good SAC representation. The group is planning to include at least one economist from the Bren School. The first meeting introduced RAP members to the Sanctuary, Sanctuary operations, RAP and SAC operations, what was expected of RAP members, and resulted in the development of RAP comments on the preliminary marine reserves/conservation areas document. RAP members will: share results of ongoing research in the Sanctuary, prioritize research and monitoring activities, contribute advice on allocation of funds for collaborative research projects, vessel time, advice for necessary research, and engage students in Sanctuary internships. They plan to meet quarterly and integrate as much as possible with another group of scientists conducting research in the Santa Barbara Channel. Their next project is to review monitoring in the Channel. Mike Murray added that RAP meeting minutes will be posted on the SAC web site.

Consideration of new Working Group: Chumash Community

Ricardo Melendez, a member of the Chumash community, spoke from the audience. He stated that at least 200 people from that community had expressed a need to be active in this process. Ricardo indicated that in general the working group would be a good idea to enhance communications and would be supported by Chumash representatives in a lot of different areas.

Ricardo Melendez, SAC members and Sanctuary staff discussed whether forming a working group prior to selection of the Chumash Community seat member and alternate would mean that the working group would be involved in the selection of the member and alternate, or alternatively if the selection of the member and alternate would alter who would be involved in the working group. The group concluded that neither scenario would occur.

The SAC voted unanimously (12-0-0) to approve formation of a new Chumash Community Working Group, to be chaired by incoming Chumash Community member (not yet selected). Related to this, applications for the SAC's Chumash Community seat were due September 30th.

Ricardo concluded the discussion by stating that the Chumash community is honored and takes pride in the fact that the Sanctuary has taken care of their homeland. It's not about being Chumash but about being a human being and taking pride in and preserving something that is precious.

Surveillance Technologies and the National Marine Sanctuary Program

Todd Jacobs (West Coast Region, National Marine Sanctuary Program) explained that the National Marine Sanctuary Program is investigating technologies for use in sanctuary enforcement and surveillance such as Automatic Information System (AIS) transponders, and unmanned aerial vehicles or UAVs. Such technologies could be used to provide information about ships traveling through sanctuaries including the contents of their cargo, where they are from, and where they are headed. According to Todd AIS units only require power and communications ability so one could easily be integrated into an existing tower array such as that at Santa Cruz Island or Los Padres National Forest. Todd indicated that the Marine Exchange and US Coast Guard are interested developing formal partnership agreements to develop AIS technology, and that a software firm may be contracted to develop a GIS interface so AIS data can be combined with other area data, such as data on landmasses. Todd also explained that information from transponders could be accessed on the web and that government vessels would be able to turn their transponders on and off at any time.

SAC members raised questions about the security and accuracy of information submitted by the transponders.

Todd also stated that a test mission to look at scientific applications of UAVs will be conducted in the spring. Agencies within NOAA are competing for use of the UAV and the contents of the scientific payload have yet to be determined. Todd offered that if any other agencies want to include capabilities or tests on this platform during the spring tests they should inform Chris Mobley.

Future SAC Meeting Schedule and Agenda Topics

SAC Retreat – Mike Murray announced that given the intent of the retreat, and that only 8 people were able to attend the retreat as proposed, the retreat has been canceled. Mike suggested an alternate one-day retreat event in the Sanctuary at a later date. He requested SAC members to send Sanctuary staff information about their availability for such an event in October and November. SAC members indicated that single day trips and inclusion of family members would make a retreat easier to attend.

Future SAC meetings: Friday, November 19, 2004

2005 Tentative Meeting Dates:

- Friday January 21 (Santa Barbara) SAC Meeting
- Friday March 18 (Ventura) SAC Meeting
- Friday May 20 (Santa Barbara) SAC Meeting
- Friday July 22 (Ventura) SAC Meeting
- Friday September 23 (Santa Barbara) SAC Meeting
- October 24-28 (1, 2 or 3 days) SAC Retreat
- Friday November 18 (Ventura)

The SAC also expressed support for holding at least two evening sessions in 2005 (one in Santa Barbara and one in Ventura). These evening sessions would be on Thursdays preceding two of the above dates. The exact dates have not been selected yet, as the SAC would prefer to meet in the evening when there is an item of elevated public interest on the agenda, such as a public hearing on the Management Plan or the release of a draft environmental impact statement on marine reserves/conservation areas). So, plan on the above listed meeting schedule until future notice about shifting to a preceding Thursday. Staff will provide as much advance notice as possible about shifts in the schedule.

Future agenda topics suggested or carried over:

- Grace Mariculture Project
- Platform Grace Liquid Natural Gas terminal proposals
- Draft Management Plan – Preparing for its release
- National MPA Center – an update on their activities

Meeting adjourned at 4:20 pm

Meeting notes respectfully submitted by Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary staff:

Sarah MacWilliams
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